

Post-Visit Extension Activities

The following extension activities may be utilized as follow-up to your visit to Independence National Historical Park, or for assessment purposes.

1) **Create a Museum Brochure by setting up the following scenario:**

You've been hired by the National Park Service to create a brochure for the house that you studied. Explain why tourists should visit. Tell about the 18th century residents and describe some of the contents of the house. Describe the house's historical significance. Make your brochure interesting, so that it will draw tourists to the site.

2) **Careers in the National Park Service**

Go to the National Park Service web site to learn about National Park Service employment opportunities. Students may pretend that they are applying for a position with the National Park Service. What job would they want? Then they may write a business letter to the superintendent, or Human Resources department, of the park that they are interested in working for in which they explain why they should be hired. Students should use the information that they have learned in this unit to make their letters more convincing.

3) **Compare and Contrast**

Create a Venn Diagram that compares life in 18th century Philadelphia to life in the present day.

4) **Math/Art Extension**

Obtain the actual measurements for one of the houses studied. Draw a scale blueprint and/or bird's eye view of the house. Use the scale drawings to construct a model of clay or other material.

5) **Make a Time Capsule**

Consider the study of material culture. What items would students include from their daily lives? Ask students to construct a time capsule (may be pictorial) and to explain the rationale for their choices in an oral presentation to the class.

6) **Math Extension**

Obtain a copy of the 1790 census. Compare it with the most recent census. Compare and contrast. How does the 1790 census inform us about daily life in the 18th century?

Design a bar graph to compare some of the data that is obtained.

Daily Life and Diversity in 18th Century Philadelphia



7) Visit the Other Households on the Web Site

Allow students time to visit the three other households on the *Daily Life and Diversity in 18th Century Philadelphia* web site. The website address is www.independenceparkinstitute.org/inp

8) Commemorating a Historical Site

The President's House is no longer standing, yet it housed the Executive Branch of government during the 1790s, and housed George Washington's enslaved Africans, some of whom escaped to freedom while living in Philadelphia. This makes it an important site for all Americans to remember, and for the National Park Service to commemorate.

What would be the best way to remember and represent the President's House?

Create a design for a commemoration of the President's House site. Include illustrations and written descriptions in your design.

9) A Fictional 1790s Conversation

The people from the households that the students have studied in this unit all lived and worked within a few blocks of one another during the same time period in Philadelphia. Historians know that some of these people actually knew each other and had conversations (like President George Washington and Bishop White). Others never met each other or talked to each other, just like people who live in big cities today. Some of these people may have known each other, but nothing has been found yet in the historical record to prove it.

Small groups of students can work in cooperative groups and create a fictional conversation that might have occurred if several of these historical figures sat down and had a conversation. Students can write a script with dialogue and stage directions for a written assignment, or they can act out the scenes for the class.

10) 1790s Philadelphia Talk Show

Small groups of students can work together in cooperative groups to produce a “talk show”, which they will perform for the class. One student takes on the role of the talk show host, and the other students take on the roles of different historical figures that were featured in the *Daily Life and Diversity in 18th Century Philadelphia* web-based program. The talk show host asks questions of their “guests” to learn more about their lives, and the guests must respond with answers that reveal accurate knowledge of the person from history that they are portraying.